

POST 16 SUBJECT INFORMATION

2018 - 2019

Computer Science A Level

Exam board: OCR

Entry Requirements:

Minimum of grade 4 or above in GCSE Computer Science and Mathematics

Course Information:

The course focuses on designing algorithms and programming and builds on the Computer Science GCSE course. Students have the choice of coding using C# and/or VB.NET programming languages. The coding focuses on the imperative object oriented programming techniques. The course also involves coding the declarative SQL database programming techniques using MySQL and/or Microsoft SQL. The course has an expanded maths focus. Computational thinking is at its core, helping students to develop the skills to solve problems, design systems and understand human and machine intelligence. The course was designed after consultation with members of the BCS, CAS and top universities and will give students a clear progression into higher education.

Assessment for the full A Level qualification:

Paper 1:	Computer Systems	(40%)
Paper 2:	Algorithms and Programming	(40%)
	Programming Project	(20%)

Career Paths:

- Hardware Engineering
- Programming
- IT Support
- Computer and Information Systems Management
- Systems Analysis
- Database Administration
- Information Security Analysis
- Web Development
- Network Architecture
- Network and Computer Systems Administrators
- Software Engineering
- Computer and Information Research

Business A Level

Exam board:
Edexcel

Course Information:

Business is an interesting and relevant course. It is an integral part of everyday life and will equip students with the skills necessary to excel in the future. The hands-on application of knowledge and the numerous transferable skills – problem-solving, strategic thinking, communication and presentation - that the average business student possesses, are highly attractive to employers. In Year 1 students will learn about marketing, finance, operations and people functions, in addition to investigating entrepreneurs and business start-ups. In Year 2 students will examine business strategy and decision-making. Students will also explore economics through global business and the opportunities and issues facing businesses in today's global world. Quantitative skills forms 10% of the course.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

Marketing and People	35%
Managing Business Activities	35%
Investigating Business in a Competitive Environment	30%

Career Paths:

Business is among the most popular fields of study at university. Business graduates are in high demand worldwide; careers with a business degree are diverse and often highly paid.

- Accountancy
- Actuarial Science
- Advertising and Marketing
- Banking
- Business Management
- Consumer Behaviour and Marketing
- Economics
- Fashion Marketing and Retail Management
- Finance
- Insurance
- International Business
- Politics
- Sports and Leisure Management

GCSE Business is NOT essential for this course

Mathematics

A Level

Exam board:

To be confirmed

Entry Requirements:

Minimum of grade 6 in Maths GCSE

Course Information:

Over the duration of the course a wide range of mathematical disciplines will be studied, including Calculus, Coordinate Geometry, Sequences and Trigonometry. The curriculum is divided into two-thirds pure mathematics and one-third applied mathematics (Statistics and Mechanics). Mathematics leads to almost any choice of higher education or employment. It is regarded as one of the most adaptable and flexible qualifications and is highly valued in the world of work and education. There has been a considerable increase in the uptake of mathematics degrees in recent years and the wealth of opportunities available to graduates is considerable. There are many other degrees which have a high level of mathematical content, and Advanced Level Maths is a requirement for degrees in Engineering, Physics and Computer Sciences.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification

Pure mathematics

Pure and mechanics

Pure and statistics

Career Paths:

Essential:

- Actuarial Science
- Aeronautical Engineering
- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Economics
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Engineering (general)
- Environmental Science/Studies
- Geology/Earth Sciences
- Mechanical Engineering
- Optometry (Ophthalmic Optics)
- Pharmacy
- Physics
- Physiotherapy
- Psychology
- Sports Science

Useful:

- Accountancy
- Banking
- Finance
- Insurance
- Architecture
- Business Studies
- Computer Science
- Dentistry
- Dietetics
- Geography
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Philosophy
- Planning
- Surveying

Further Mathematics AS Level

Exam board:

To be confirmed

Entry Requirements:

Minimum of grade 7 in Maths GCSE

Course Information:

Over the duration of the course a wide range of mathematical disciplines will be studied, including Calculus, Complex Numbers, Sequences and Series and Trigonometry. Mathematics is regarded as one of the most adaptable and flexible qualifications and is highly valued in the world of work and education. There has been a considerable increase in the uptake of Mathematics degrees in recent years and the wealth of opportunities available to graduates is considerable. There are many other degrees which have a high level of mathematical content and a Further Maths qualification will give candidates a distinct advantage for degrees in Engineering, Physics, Computer Sciences and of course Mathematics. With an increased emphasis on developing people with the necessary skills to lead progress in our ever changing world, Mathematics and Further Mathematics will become ever more important.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification

(Assessment information will vary slightly depending on exam board)

Pure mathematics (2 papers)

Paper 3 covering 2 out of 3 application units

Career Paths:

Essential:

- Aeronautical Engineering

Useful:

- Biochemistry
- Biomedical Sciences
- Chemical Engineering
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science
- Dentistry
- Electrical/Electronic Engineering
- Engineering (general)
- Optometry (Ophthalmic Optics)
- Physics
- Veterinary Science

Core Mathematics Level 3

Exam board:

AQA

Course Information:

Level 3 Mathematical Studies (Core Maths) is a new qualification designed for students who have achieved a grade 4 or above at GCSE. It covers a diverse range of topics such as data analysis, personal finance, cost benefit analysis, critical path analysis and rates of change.

The course helps to develop students' mathematical skills and thinking and supports courses such as A-level Psychology, Business Studies, Sciences and Geography, as well as technical and vocational qualifications. It involves high levels of problem solving and encourages students to consider the world around them and apply this knowledge and their skills to real life scenarios. This qualification forms part of a national drive to raise standards in mathematics by offering a complementary course that will encourage all students to study mathematics in some form until they are 18.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

2 Papers of equal weighting

Career Paths:

- Actuarial Sciences
- Finance
- Accountancy
- Business Management
- Advertising
- Marketing
- Web commerce

Geography A Level

Exam board:
Eduqas

Course Information:

There are FOUR components:

1. Changing Landscapes and Changing Places
 - Coastal Landscapes
 - Changing Places
2. Global Systems and Global Governance
 - Water and Carbon Cycles
 - Migration and Governance of the Earth's Oceans
 - 21st Century Challenges
3. Contemporary Themes in Geography
 - Tectonic Hazards
 - Weather and Climate
 - Development in an African Context
4. Independent Investigation based on a fieldwork study

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

Component 1- Changing Landscapes and Changing Places Written Examination 1hr 45 mins	20.5%
Component 2- Global Systems and Global Governance Written Examination 2hrs	27.5%
Component 3- Contemporary Themes in Geography Written Examination 2hrs 15 Mins	32%
Component 4- Independent Assignment Non-Examination Coursework 3-4000 words	20%

Career Paths:

Geography is an excellent subject to study as it promotes an understanding of the wider world and how it works. Geography does not lead to one specific job but instead provides students with a wide range of skills suitable to many professions. Some of these include:

- Surveying and Town Planning
- Water Management
- Tourism
- Teaching
- Police
- International Development
- Government
- Nature Conservation
- Logistics and Distribution

Geography GCSE is an advantage but is not essential

Biology A Level

Exam board:
AQA (7402)

Entry Requirements:

Minimum of grade 5 in GCSE Biology or Additional Science and Mathematics

Course Information:

A-level Biology builds on the concepts and skills developed in the GCSE. The course gives students the knowledge and skills to make connections and associations with all living things. Biology, like many of the sciences, is a practical subject and throughout the course students will carry out a range of practical activities.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

There are three exam papers for this qualification, each lasting 2 hours. Each exam paper includes assessment of practical skills alongside the theory learned throughout the course. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Biology are based on what was learned during practicals. 10% of the assessment will require use of mathematical skills.

Paper 1 (35%) – 2 hours.

Topics 1-4 plus practical skills. Short answer, long answer and extended response.

Paper 2 (35%) – 2 hours.

Topics 5-8 plus practical skills. Short answer, long answer and comprehension.

Paper 3 (30%) – 2 hours.

Topics 1-8 plus practical skills. Structured question, critical data analysis and essay.

Career Paths:

- Medicine
- Clinical Molecular Genetics
- Nature Conservation
- Pharmacology
- Science Research
- Veterinary Science
- Secondary School Teaching
- Marine Biology
- Dentistry

Chemistry A Level

Exam board:
AQA (7405)

Entry Requirements :

Minimum of grade 5 in GCSE Chemistry or Additional Science and Mathematics

Course Information:

Throughout the course students cover Organic, Inorganic and Physical Chemistry. Practical work is fundamental to Chemistry. Assessments take place throughout the course and students are given opportunities to become equipped with the essential practical skills required to continue in other science disciplines.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

There are three exam papers for this qualification, each lasting 2 hours. Each exam paper includes assessment of practical skills alongside the theory learned throughout the course. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Chemistry are based on what was learned during practicals. 20% of the assessment will require use of mathematical skills.

Paper 1 (35%) – 2 hours.

Physical chemistry, inorganic chemistry and practical skills. Short and long answers.

Paper 2 (35%) – 2 hours. Short and long answers.

Physical chemistry, organic chemistry and practical skills.

Paper 3 (30%) – 2 hours.

Drawn from entire theory and practical skills. Short answer and multiple choice.

Career Paths:

- Medicine
- Bio-medical Science
- Pharmacy
- Chemical Engineering
- Dentistry

Physics A Level

Exam board:
AQA (7408)

Entry Requirements:

Minimum of grade 5 in GCSE Physics or Additional Science and Mathematics

Course Information:

A Level Physics allows students to study a wide range of aspects from Newtonian mechanics to how particles behave at a quantum level. Students develop the skills to apply their understanding mathematically, and become competent in investigation skills, independently carrying out a range of practical investigations.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

There are three exam papers for this qualification, each lasting 2 hours. Each exam paper includes assessment of practical skills alongside the theory learned throughout the course. At least 15% of the marks for A-level Physics are based on what was learned during practicals. 40% of the assessment will require use of mathematical skills.

Paper 1 (34%) – 2 hours.

Sections 1-5 and 6.1. Short answer, long answer and multiple choice.

Paper 2 (34%) – 2 hours.

Sections 6.2, 7 and 8. Short answer, long answer and multiple choice.

Paper 3 (32%) – 2 hours.

Section A: Practical skills and data analysis. Short and long answer.

Section B: Choice of one of sections 9 to 13. Short and long answer.

Career Paths:

- Mechanical/Civil/Electrical/Chemical Engineering
- Physics Research
- Medical Physics (e.g. Radiography)
- Mathematically-based Professions (e.g. Accountancy).

Applied Science Level 3 Cambridge Technicals in Laboratory Skills

Exam board:
OCR

Entry Requirements:
Minimum of 2 grade 4's at GCSE Sciences

Course Information:
The Applied Science course consists of five units of study. Each unit focuses on a different aspect of science. Throughout the course students will be able to learn about and demonstrate skills, knowledge and understanding of different areas of science with a particular focus on vocational science skills.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:
Coursework - internally assessed (50%)
Two exams - externally assessed (50%)

This is a two year course offering a certificate equal in size and UCAS points as a two year A-level course. It does not offer a one year AS-level equivalent.

Career Paths:
Applied Science is suitable for any student who would like to work in a science based industry.

- Midwifery
- Physiotherapy
- Science Technician / Laboratory?
- Health Service

French A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Entry Requirements:
Minimum of grade 5 in GCSE French.

Course Information:
Students will build upon vocabulary and grammar learnt at GCSE to gradually become more independent and therefore more fluent in French. Students will learn about lots of aspects of daily life in France and other Francophone countries, such as music, cinema, architecture, gastronomy and current affairs. As confidence increases, there will also be the opportunity to study French films and literature in more depth. Any modern language gives an excellent opportunity to become fluent in a language which will in turn lead to greater career opportunities in a wide range of fields.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

Paper 1:	Listening, Reading and Writing	(50%)
Paper 2:	Writing	(20%)
Paper 3:	Oral Exam	(30%)

Career Paths:

- Translation
- Interpreting
- Teaching
- Business and Finance
- Journalism and Media
- Law
- Foreign Office
- Engineering
- Politics
- Armed Forces
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Scientific Research
- Accountancy

German A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Entry Requirements (5A*-C):
Minimum of grade 5 in GCSE German.

Course Information:

Students will build upon vocabulary and grammar learnt at GCSE to gradually become more independent and therefore more fluent in German. Students will learn about lots of aspects of daily life in Germany and Austria, such as music, cinema, architecture and current affairs. As confidence increases there will also be the opportunity to study German films and literature in more depth. Any modern language gives an excellent opportunity to become fluent in a language which will in turn lead to greater career opportunities in a wide range of fields.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

Paper 1:	Listening, Reading and Writing	(50%)
Paper 2	Writing	(20%)
Paper 3	Speaking	(30%)

Career Paths:

- Translation
- Interpreting
- Teaching
- Business and Finance
- Journalism and Media
- Law
- Foreign Office
- Engineering
- Politics
- Armed Forces
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Scientific Research
- Accountancy

Sport and Physical Activity

Cambridge Technical Extended Certificate in Sport and Physical Activity

Exam board:
OCR

Entry Requirements:
Minimum of grade 4 in BTEC Sport level 2 (desirable)

Course information:
Throughout this course students will study units based around the sport and leisure industry. All units will be delivered through a mixture of theory and practical lessons relating to each of the units.

Units covered

- Body Systems and the Effects of Physical Activity (Exam)
- Sports Coaching and Activity Leadership (Coursework)
- Sports Organisation and Development (Exam)
- Nutrition for Diet and Exercise (Coursework)
- Physical Activity for Specific Groups (Coursework)
- Sports Injuries and Rehabilitation (Coursework)

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:
The course is assessed by two written exams and a variety of coursework throughout the two years. This course is a full two year course without the option of AS level.

Career Paths:

- Sports Development
- Sports Science
- Teaching
- Sports Coaching
- Fitness instruction
- Personal Training

Product Design (3D) A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Entry Requirements:
Minimum of grade 5 in a GCSE Design related subject.

Course Information:
Product Design 3D offers students an excellent progression path into Design at a higher level. The course mixes together elements of Graphic Design and Product Design to create interesting and dynamic products. Students have the opportunity to work in a variety of materials such as plastics, card, woods and metals. CAD/CAM is an integral part of the course, with students using computer controlled machinery in conjunction with more traditional machines.

In year 12, students complete a variety of projects that combine to develop fully a thorough understanding of all required technical skills and knowledge. The NEA element will start at the end of year 12 and will continue throughout year 13. Students will have an open choice for this, but project proposals will need to be presented for consideration by the teaching team.

Further information can be accessed via the AQA website:
<http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/design-and-technology/as-and-a-level/design-and-technology-product-design-7552/introduction>

Assessment for the full A-Level Qualification:

Paper 1:	30%	2.5 hour exam in year 13
Paper 2:	20%	1.5 hour exam in year 13
NEA Project:	50%	Main project undertaken in year 13

Career Paths:

Industrial Designer	Furniture Designer
Product Designer	Graphic Designer
Design Engineer	Engineering – civil, mechanical, electrical, etc.
Architect	Model Maker
Interior Designer	Set Designer
Landscape Designer	Ergonomics Engineer
CAD Engineer	Teacher
Automotive Engineer	Town Planner
Game Design	

English Literature A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Entry Requirements:

Recommended at least one grade 6 in English Literature or English Language.

Course Information:

You will study a variety of texts including poetry, plays and novels. There are a mixture of time periods dating from Shakespeare all the way through to texts written in the twenty-first century. Unlike the entirely prescribed nature of GCSE, A' Level Literature also contains much more freedom for the teachers to select vibrant and original texts that students are likely to engage with more enthusiastically. Throughout the course, wider reading is also encouraged and as part of the coursework there is an opportunity to select and research your own texts.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

Paper 1 (40%)
Paper 2 (40%)
Coursework (20%)

Career Paths:

- Journalism
- Research
- Publishing
- Teaching
- Writing
- Communications
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Tourism
- Management
- Maybe a career / Happily writing haikus / Lit could help achieve

English Language and Literature A Level

Exam board:

AQA

Entry Requirements:

Recommended at least one grade 6 in English Literature or English Language.

Course Information:

The English Language and Literature A level course requires students to read a range of texts - both literary and non-literary - with insight, and to write in different forms analytically and creatively. There are two examinations. In the first, students answer questions on texts they have read and worked on throughout the course. Poetry, novels and an anthology of texts form the basis of this examination. For the second paper, students write responses to another novel they have studied during the course, and also a play. Students also produce a coursework essay, worth 20% of the final mark, in which they explore connections between literary and non-literary texts on a subject of their choice.

Assessment for the full A Level Qualification:

Paper 1	(40%)
Paper 2	(40%)
Coursework	(20%)

Career Paths:

- Journalism
- Writing
- Teaching
- Research
- Publishing
- Communications
- Public Relations and Marketing
- Business
- Tourism
- Management

Media Studies A Level

Exam board:
Eduqas

Course Information:

A two-year course which focuses around four media concepts: forms, audiences, representations, and industries. Students will learn about the media's role in modern day society, and how it can contribute towards the ever-changing landscape of the world around us. Students will explore a range of media forms, and harness their ability to analyse how a text is constructed, and evaluate the impact this will have on an audience. They will learn about how industries in the media operate, and look to question their motives in the production and distribution of the media. Students will also have the chance to study a range of theories that they will need to apply to the representation of social groups within the media. And, of course, students will look to hone their ICT skills in order to produce a wide-range of media texts themselves.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Paper 1: 35%
Paper 2: 35%
Coursework: 30%

Career Paths:

- Journalism
- Editing
- Copywriting
- Production (Writing/Filming/Editing/Production Crew)
- Research
- Public Relations
- Communications
- Advertising
- Marketing

GCSE Media Studies is NOT essential for this course

Theatre Studies

A Level

Exam board:
Edexcel

Course Information:

The Drama and Theatre course combines practical dramatic work with theoretical explorations of texts and theatre practitioners. There are three components in the full A Level course. Component One involves a devised group performance, for which students may be a performer or technical contributor. In Component Two, students again have the choice of performing or technically assisting in a lengthy play extract, as well as a monologue or duologue. Finally, Component Three is an exam which involves the study of two set texts and a chosen practitioner and a response to a live theatre performance. There will be theatre trips during the course and students are also encouraged to independently see as much live theatre as possible.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Examination (40%)

Coursework Component 1 - a devised group performance and supporting portfolio, for which students may be a performer or technical contributor (40%)

Coursework Component 2- Performance of key text / Monologue or Duologue (20%)

Career Paths:

- Acting
- Directing
- Lighting Design
- Set Design
- Costume Design
- Stage Management

History A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Entry Requirements:
Minimum of grade 4 if student has taken GCSE History

Course Information:
Students will study either 3 components as part of their History A Level or 2 components for the AS Level. Components 1 and 2 are assessed via examination, whilst Component 3 is assessed via a 3,500 word essay (A Level only). All examinations require students to answer source and non-source questions.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Breadth Study - The Tudors; England, 1485-1603	(40%)
Depth Study - France In Revolution, 1774-1815	(40%)
Historical Investigation - 3000-3500 word essay on Tsarist and Communist Russia, 1855-1964	(20%)

Career Paths:

- Historical Research
- Law
- Politics
- Journalism
- Curating
- Archaeology
- Teaching
- Conservation and Heritage Work
- Genealogy
- Archiving
- Auctioneering
- Costume Design
- Tourism

Psychology

A Level

Exam board:
OCR

Course Information:

Psychology is the scientific study of brain, mind and behaviour. Students learn about a range of psychological theories which are then used to understand and explain a variety of phenomena including: memory, attention, language, intelligence, moral development, learning, neuropsychology, obedience, helping behaviour, and psychological disorders. Students also learn about how psychology is applied in areas including criminal psychology, sport psychology, environmental psychology and child development. There is a strong emphasis on research and, as well as looking at the series of core studies, students are also heavily engaged in doing their own investigations using key methods such as experiments, observations and questionnaires. Underlying the whole course are a number of debates such as the nature/nurture debate, the free will/determinism debate, and holism/reductionism debate, as well as issues such as ethics, ethnocentrism and sampling bias.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Research Methods exam	(30%)
Psychological Themes through Core Studies exam	(35%)
Applied Psychology exam	(35%)

Career Paths:

- Psychological Practice e.g. Educational Psychology, Occupational Psychology
- Counselling
- Medical Professions
- Social Work
- Teaching
- Uniformed Services e.g. Police
- Human Resources
- Sales and Marketing
- Research
- Management

Fine Art A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Entry Requirements:
Minimum of grade 4 if student has taken GCSE Art

Course Information:
This is designed to be a 2 year A Level course. In Year 12, students participate in a range of art workshops including drawing techniques, ceramics, mixed media, printmaking and photography. They develop a range of skills before completing a mini project on an area of their choice. In the summer term they begin their 'Personal Investigation' project which continues into Year 13.

It is possible to achieve an AS Level or EPQ at the end of Year 12 but this decision has to be made very early in Year 12. If a student chooses to do this then it is not possible to continue with the full A Level as they will have missed the start of the 'Personal Investigation' project.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)
Students propose an area of study to base their personal investigation project on. They start in the summer term of Year 12 and continue with this practical project until January of Year 13.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)
In February of Year 13 students receive an exam paper with a selection of starting points for art projects. They select one to base their work on and this project concludes with a 15 hour practical exam where they produce their final outcome.

Career Paths:

Many students complete an Art Foundation Course after A Level while some go directly onto university and further education art courses in specialist areas.

- Fashion Design
- Textile Design
- Graphic Design
- Architect
- Interior Design
- Illustration
- Gallery Management
- Art Curation
- Animation
- Computer Games Design
- Set Design
- Web Design
- Teaching
- Ceramics
- Jewellery Design

Students wishing to take A Level Art who have not studied Art at GCSE should seek advice within the department.

Visual Media (Photography) A Level

Exam board:
AQA

Course Information:

This is designed to be a 2 year A Level course. In Year 12, students participate in a range of workshops including camera techniques, studio photography, location photography, PhotoShop and presentation skills. They develop a range of skills before completing a mini project on an area of their choice. In the summer term they begin their 'Personal Investigation' project which continues into Year 13.

It is possible to achieve an AS Level or EPQ at the end of Year 12 but this decision has to be made very early in Year 12. If a student chooses to do this then it is not possible to continue with the full A Level as they will have missed the start of the 'Personal Investigation' project.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Component 1: Personal Investigation (60%)
Students propose an area of study to base their personal investigation project on. They start in the summer term of Year 12 and continue with this practical project until January of Year 13.

Component 2: Externally Set Assignment (40%)
In February of Year 13 students receive an exam paper with a selection of starting points for photography projects. They select one to base their project on and conclude with a 15 hour practical exam where they produce their final outcome.

Career Paths:

Many students go directly onto university and further education photography courses in specialist areas.

- Photography
- Photojournalism
- Fashion Photography
- Graphic Design
- Publishing & Promotions
- Interior Design
- Gallery Management
- Computer Games Design
- Web Design
- Teaching
- Styling
- Advertising
- Freelance Photography
- Animation

It is useful if students who are interested in studying A Level Visual Media have studied Art, Media, or Graphics at GCSE level but this is not essential. Good organisation and the ability to work independently are important for this A Level.

Sociology A Level

Exam board:
OCR

Course Information:

The course divides into three distinct areas:

1. Socialisation, Culture and Identity. This is developed through the context of either families and relationships, youth subcultures or the media.
2. Researching and Understanding Social Inequalities. A range of methods and sources of data explored. Factors that influence the design of sociological research and the relationship between theory and methods are developed. This leads to looking at patterns and trends in social inequality.
3. Debates in Contemporary Society. This is explored through the two themes of Globalisation and the Digital Social World and Crime and Deviance.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

Paper 1	(30%)
Paper 2	(35%)
Paper 3	(35%).

Career Paths:

Sociology can lead to a wide range of higher courses and careers. The most obvious are those concerned with working with people. With further training, students have the opportunity to follow a career as a Social Worker, Teacher or Social Researcher.

This course will also help students to develop general skills that many employers across lots of industries are looking for. Degree courses in Sociology are possible and degrees in Criminology are currently popular choices.

- Teaching
- Social Work
- Social Research
- Youth Work
- International Aid/Development
- Community Development

Politics A Level

Exam board: Pearson Edexcel

Course Information:

A Level Politics reflects the demands of a truly modern and evolving political environment in the UK and around the world. At AS Level, you will study UK politics and government, which will give you a set of core knowledge and understanding of politics. You will then develop this knowledge and understanding at A Level, and study three core political ideas and another from a choice of five. You are then able to study the government and politics of the USA.

The aim of the A Level Politics course is to:

- develop knowledge and an informed understanding of contemporary political structures and issues in their historical context, both within the United Kingdom (UK) and globally
- develop a critical awareness of the changing nature of politics and the relationships between political ideas, institutions and processes
- develop knowledge and an informed understanding of the influences and interests which have an impact on decisions in government and politics
- develop knowledge and an informed understanding of the rights and responsibilities of individuals and groups
- develop the ability to critically analyse, interpret and evaluate political information to form arguments and make judgements.

Assessment for the full A level Qualification:

A Level Politics is assessed through three examinations:

Component 1 - UK Politics (a 2 hour written examination worth 33% of the final grade)

1. Political Participation, in this unit you will study:

- democracy and participation, political parties, electoral systems, voting behaviour and the media.

2. Core Political Ideas, in this unit you will study:

- conservatism, liberalism, socialism.

Component 2 - UK Government (a 2 hour written examination worth 33% of the final grade)

1. UK Government, in this unit you will study:

- the constitution, parliament, Prime Minister and executive, relationships between the branches.

2. Non-core political ideas, in this unit you will study:

- one idea from the following: anarchism, ecologism, feminism, multiculturalism, nationalism.

Component 3 - Comparative Politics - USA (a 2 hour written examination worth 33% of the final grade).

For USA (3A), you will study:

- the US Constitution and federalism, US Congress, US presidency, US Supreme Court and civil rights, democracy and participation, comparative theories.

Career Paths:

- Media and journalism
- Business and self-employment
- Politics, international relations, volunteer work, charity work
- Headteacher!

